

SENATE BILL 1135
By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, relative to coverage for diabetes outpatient self-management training and education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 56, Chapter 7, Part 23, is amended by adding Section 2 of this act as a new, appropriately designated section.

SECTION 2. (a) On or after July 1, 1997, every individual, franchise, blanket or group health insurance policy, group health insurance plan/policy, medical service plan contract, hospital service corporation contract, hospital and medical service corporation contract, fraternal benefit society, health maintenance organization, and all other forms of managed/capitated plan or policy shall provide coverage for the equipment, supplies, and outpatient self-management training and education, including medical nutrition therapy, for the treatment of insulin-dependent diabetes, insulin-using diabetes, gestational diabetes, and non-insulin using diabetes if prescribed by a health care professional legally authorized to prescribe such items under law.

(b) Diabetes outpatient self-management training and education shall be provided by a certified, registered or licensed health care professional with expertise in diabetes.

(c) (1) The benefits provided in this act shall be subject to the same annual deductibles or co-insurance established for all other covered benefits within a given policy, plan or contract.

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(2) Private third-party payors may not reduce or eliminate coverage due to the requirements of this act.

(3) Enforcement of the provisions of this act shall be performed by the commissioner of commerce and insurance.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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